



August 9, 2010

Dear Kitchen Cabinet members,

This is the sixth in my series of Kitchen Cabinet updates helping you understand why government costs so much. These Kitchen Cabinet updates are helping to expose how state government spends your money and better explain why we're currently in a budget crisis.

Did a friend forward this e-mail to you? [Click here](#) to sign up for these Kitchen Cabinet e-mail updates.

I've been sending out these updates for over three years now, and the upcoming 2011 session will no doubt be a very important one for our state. Sign up to receive these updates and keep on top of what's going on in Olympia.

Washington State Investment Board



In my series of Kitchen Cabinets looking at places state government could consider saving money, we've looked at [the University of Washington](#), [the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts](#), [the governor's office](#), and [the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction](#). In this edition, we're looking at the [Washington State Investment Board](#).

According to the state Office of Financial Management, in 2009 (the last budget year) there were 73 people working at WSIB, which is responsible for managing investments for Washington State pensions and other public trust funds. 50 of those people made over \$99,000 a year in pay and benefits. **That's 68% of the entire department!** The chief investment officer alone makes nearly half a million dollars annually. The top 12 earners on the board make over \$200,000 a year and most of them are investment officers and senior investment officers. **Perhaps some of them are more**

concerned with their own investments than those of the state of Washington. These are the same folks who lost about 40% of the money invested for pensions when the market tanked a few years ago. To my knowledge, nobody lost their jobs over that. Why are we paying top dollar for these services? It makes you wonder what the state gets in return for these highly paid individuals. It's just another area where the state should look to make cuts in this effort to trim costs and save taxpayer dollars.

As I've said before, most of the rank and file employees around the state make much less than this, but there are some major exceptions which need to be addressed. **You can find all the information about state employee salaries on the website for the [Office of Financial Management](#).**

Next week's revelations

If you want to review the prior Kitchen Cabinet updates we've done, you can find them on my website at www.SenateRepublicans.wa.gov/Carrell. Or, if there is a state agency or department which you'd like me to take a look at in future Kitchen Cabinets, send an e-mail to Carrell.Mike@leg.wa.gov. Next week, we'll take a look at **the mother of bloated government agencies: the Department of Social and Health Services**. Do you know how many people in the department make over \$99,000 annually in pay and benefits? Here's a hint...it's not dozens. *It's not even in the hundreds.*

55 Solutions



While I've been detailing many of the different ways state government spends your money, I think it's important to also point out that I have been an advocate of numerous ways state government could save money as well. **You can find a [list of 55 of those solutions](#) on my website**, and I'm sure there will be even more ideas proposed as the 2011 legislative session draws near.

As you know, I have had a number of personal suggestions beyond the 55 in past Kitchen Cabinets, such as **getting rid of commissioned art projects for state prisons by artists why may not even be Washington State citizens**. For more information on these ideas, you can read my [previous Kitchen Cabinet](#) on the issue.

In closing...

If you know someone in our district who might be interested in receiving these updates, please feel free to forward this e-mail to him or her.

You can always find information online by visiting my website at

www.SenateRepublicans.wa.gov/Carrell.

As always, if you'd like to contact me you can write, phone, e-mail, or stop by. My office phone number is (360) 786-7654, and my home phone number is (253) 581-2859. Or you can write me at **102 Irv Newhouse Building, P.O. Box 40428, Olympia, WA 98504-0428.**



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Sincerely,

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